(b) if so, the total amount generated country-wise as a result thereof;

(c) how far this has helped in improving its financial position and wiping out the losses; and

(d) what were the financial accruals to Air India through such means during the Years 1998-99 and 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) During 2000-2001, the total revenue of Air India from diferent types of commercial arrangements was Rs. 240.41 crores. Out of this Rs. 29.81 crores were earned from six airlines, who arc utilising the unused entitlement of Air India.

(c) The losses of Air India have been reduced by the above mentioned amount.

(d) The total revenue of Air India from different types of commercial arrangements during 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 was Rs. 162.47 crores and Rs. 219.12 crores respectively.

Guwahati and Dibrugarh Airports

937. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) by when the renovation of Guwahati Airport with hub will be completed;

(b) what is the timeframe for starting international flights from Guwahati Airport; and

(c) whether Government propose to raise Dibrugarh Airport to international level as it is the next important airport of the North East?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Guwahati Airport is suitable for operation of medium capacity long range aircraft. During the last two years, expansion of apron to accomodate one AP-300, one AB-320 and four B-737 aircraft and expansion/modification of the terminal building to handle 750 arriving and 750 departing passengers have been completed simultaneously at Guwahati Airport.

(b) Guwahati airport has already been declared as International

airport. Decision to start international flights from any aiport is taken by airlines based on economic viability and traffic demand.

(c) Dibrugarh Airport is suitable for B-737 class aircraft operations. Airports Authority of India has no plan to upgrade this airport as an international airport at present.

Improvement in passenger facilities at Airports

938. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to further upgrade the passenger amenities at various airports at par with international airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred for the improvement of passenger facilities, airport-wise, during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India has taken up major passenger facilities upgradation works at Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Amritsar, Guwahati, Bangalore, Goa, Jaipur, Lucknow, Calicut and Bhubaneswar airports.

(c) The facilities provided at international airports are primarily dependent upon the traffic demand. Upgradation of various facilities at different airports is an ongoing process. The expenditure incurred on the various works at the above mentioned airports during the last three years are as follows:—